Cyngor Cymuned **Carreghofa** Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 30th January 2024

at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr R Dover (Chairman)

Cllr C Savage

Cllr. I Done

Cllr J Fynes

Cllr C Hall

Cllr. F James

Cllr C Jones

Cllr I Parry

In attendance:

Mr M. Donkin: Clerk to the Council

County Cllr Arwel Jones

For item 7.1.

* M. Wedhall – Canal & Rivers Trust
* Tim Brownrigg - Canal & Rivers Trust
* K Gilmour – Powys County Council
* M Willing - Powys County Council

12 members of the general public

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| **1.Apologies for absence**    None |
| **2. To record Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda**  None |
| **3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2023**  The minutes of the meeting held on 28th November were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Fynes, seconded by Cllr Done and approved unanimously. |
| **4. Matters arising from the minutes**  4.1. Ref: min 5.2. Budget  The Clerk confirmed that the Precept request had been sent to Powys County Council and had been acknowledged.  4.2. Ref Mins 7.3 & 7.4  The Clerk confirmed that donations had been made to the Welsh Air Ambulance Charitable Trust and to the Llanymynech Community Café. |
| **5 Finance**  5.1. Current position  The Clerk reported the current positions as follows:-  Deposit account: £ 16474.63 The final tranche of the Precept (£3820) was paid on  31st December 2023.  Current account: £ 980.36  Pension account £ 74.11  5.2. Third Quarter Financial Statement  The Clerk presented the Financial Statement as set out in the papers for the meeting. He drew attention to the notes to the statement and offered to take questions. There were none.  Cllr Fynes proposed acceptance of the Statement. This was seconded by Cllr Hall and approved unanimously.  5.3. Approval of Payments  The following payment was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Hall and approved:-  Clive Heaton – Grounds maintenance contract final quarter - £637.10 |
| **6. Planning**  There were no planning applications for consideration. |
| **7 Other matters**  7.1 Montgomery Canal Development Project  This item was taken at the beginning of the meeting.  Representatives of the Canal & Rivers Trust and Powys County Council were present for this item.  Ms K. Gilmour informed the meeting that ITV had filmed the Trust’s dredging operation and that this would be shown on a local new programme in the near future.  She also reported that the Friends of the Montgomery Canal have undertaken a survey to determine which structures (bridges etc.) required the most attention.  In the absence of Katie Woodroffe Mr T. Brownrigg gave a presentation on behalf of the Canal & Rivers Trust. He reported that 75% of phase 1 of the current dredging between Four Crosses and Llanymynech had been completed but the remaining 25% needs to be done within the next week. There are problems with the disposal of the dredged material because of high levels of zinc which means that it cannot be spread on neighbouring fields.  The best option for Williams Bridge would be a fixed bridge but consultants had concluded that this would cause damage to the ecology of the area and so the second option of a lift bridge is now being worked on.  The Chairman queried whether the plans for the new road had gone to Powys County Council for consultation but County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he had seen nothing to date. There were no costings, and the change of design would bring additional expense.  Mr Brownrigg showed drawings of the new road scheme at Walls Bridge. He said that the scheme should start in mid-August but confirmed that, as yet, no planning application has been submitted.  There will be a consultation process prior to planning. He confirmed that the space to the north of the canal would be designated as a Community Space to be used as appropriate by the Community Council. He further said that it had been agreed that the memorial trees would have a better chance of adapting to their new position in the Community Space if they were directly transplanted rather than being stored for a period of time.  Concern was voiced that the pedestrian access from Carreghofa Bridge would be via the old Walls Bridge and that no provision had been made for pedestrians across the new bridge.  The Chairman thanked Mr Brownrigg for his presentation and looked forward to the Canal & Rivers Trust attending future meetings to keep the Council informed of progress.  7.2. Carreghofa Primary School project.  The Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting regarding an unsuccessful bid made by Carreghofa Primary School to ‘Keep Wales Tidy’ to enhance the school grounds and increase biodiversity. Apparently, the bid did not meet ‘Keep Wales Tidy’s’ criteria. They felt that the Council might offer support or might work with Powys County Council’s Small Grants Scheme.  Cllr Savage felt that the Council needed more information before it could make an informed decision about supporting the project.  It was agreed that Cllrs Dover and Fynes, who are on the School Board of Governors would seek information at the next Governor’s meeting and bring it to the next meeting of the Council.  **ACTION: Cllrs Dover and Fynes**  7. 3. Social Media Activity  Cllr Parry reported that the website was working well and he was putting regular updates on the Council’s Facebook page. He had now put a picture up showing the boundaries of Carreghofa Community Council. He asked again if anyone who had photographs or facts about the village which would be of interest to residents to forward them to him so that they could be included on the Website and Facebook page.  Councillor Fynes asked if items on the Facebook page received responses. Cllr Parry said that they did and that people were raising possible areas for future development, the latest being a request to fund allotments for the community.  It was agreed that this item should be kept on the agenda in order to keep the Council up to date on matters of interest to the general public.  7.4. Donation request – URDD  Council considered a request from URDD for a donation towards the cost of their summer camps. It was thought that there would be little, if any, interest locally and so, the Council decided not to donate this year.  County Cllr Arwel Jones said that the URDD Eisteddfod is being held in Montgomeryshire next year and it was thought that, if this is the case, the Council might support a donation request in 2025. |
| **8 Amenities**  8.1. Walls Bridge Playground and Football Field  The Chairman reported that there has still been no response from the Football Club. Cllr Fynes noted that it is now four months since a request for a meeting had been made.  Cllr Done said that the supports to the nets will need replacing in the medium term.  The Clerk pointed out that we are now ¾ of the way through the financial year and no request for rent has been made by Lewis Brothers. County Cllr Arwel Jones said that if he is given a cheque for £100, he would undertake to get a receipt for the payment from the Lewis’.  **ACTION: Clerk then County Cllr Arwel Jones** |
| **9. Highways and Byways**   * 1. Verges and potholes   County Cllr Arwel Jones reported that he had visited Carreghofa with the new Highways manager, who is based in Welshpool. He felt that this had been a useful exercise and the manager had agreed to address the problems of potholes and would produce a plan for dealing with emptying the gullies and widening the vergers on Pen-y-Foel.  The Chairman said that there had been increased activity from silage vehicles on Carreghofa Lane and this was causing damage and worsening the potholes there.  It was noted that the 20mph sign by the crossroads had been damaged on at least two occasions and County Cllr Arwel Jones said that Powys County Council is looking at alternative sites.  Concern was expressed that the section of the B4398 between Carreghofa Primary School and Wern remains at 30mph. The Clerk said that he thought that this is because the housing density is much less on this stretch of the road. County Cllr Arwel Jones said that any concerns should be sent direct to Powys County Council.  The Chairman raised the issue of the Dolphin Car Park. Cllr Fynes felt that the general public is not aware that the rear section of the car park is owned by Powys County Council and that signs displayed by the Dolphin pointing out that their area is for patrons only is confusing. It was felt that clear signage at the entrance to the care park is needed. Cllr Hall, wondered if the Community Council could erect a sign saying ‘Free Public Parking’  Cllr Savage pointed out that an increase in the undergrowth at the canal end of the car park is actually reducing the space available for cars and asked if this could be dealt with by the County Council.  Cllr James said that no action has yet been taken about the salt bins on Pen-y-Foel.  County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he would raise these concerns with Powys Highways Department.  **ACTION County Cllr Arwel Jones**  N.B. actions subsequently taken by County Cllr Arwel jones have been circulated to councillors.  9.2. Tailtoppen  The Council noted the communication including photograph in the papers for the meeting from the owner of Tailtoppen that changes in the level of the kerb stone had led to flooding of the drive.  County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he would take this up with the County Council.  **ACTION County Cllr Arwel Jones** |
| **10 To receive reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies**  10.1. Burial Board  The meeting of 24th January 2024.has been postponed until March.  10.2. Powys C. C. and Town and Community Councils meeting  No meeting had been held  10.3. Village Hall  Nothing to report  10.4 CHC meeting  Nothing to report. |
| **11. Correspondence**  11.1 Correspondence for Decision  There was no correspondence for decision  11.2. Correspondence to note.  Council noted the correspondence sent out by the Clerk since the last meeting and itemised in the papers for the meeting.   | **From** | **Date** | **Subject** | | --- | --- | --- | | IRPW report via OVW | 19th December | Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report - February 2024 | | Craig Williams MP | 19th December | December newsletter | | Play Wales | 19th December | Ministerial Review of Play summary report published | | Audit Wales via OVW | 19th December | Newsletter | | Public Services Ombudsman for Wales via OVW | 19th December | press release - Equality and Human Rights Casebook | | Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service | 19th December | Christmas Safety | | Russell George MS | 19th December | December newsletter | | Powys County Council | 19th December | Christmas recycling & waste collections | | RNIB | 19th December | Community Connection December Newsletter | | National Access Forum via OVW | 20th December | Countryside Code update | | Play Wales | 20th December | December e bulletin | | One Voice Wales | 20th December | Training dates – January 2024 | | One Voice Wales | 8th January | Webinar – Interactive self-guided tours | | Mid and Weast Wales Fire & Rescue Service | 8th January | Magazine | | One Voice Wales | 8th January | Biodiversity | | Craig Williams MP | 8th January | January Newsletter | | Emergency Ambulance Services Committee | 8th January | Update from the Emergency Ambulance Services Committee on the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) | | One Voice Wales | 8th January | Training dates January - March | | Russell George MS | 8th January | January newsletter | | Go Safe partnership | 10th January | Community speed watch seminar | | Pageant master via OVW | 11th January | D Day celebrations | | Shropshire County Council | 15th January | Gigabit Project update | | Emergency Ambulance Services Committee | 19th January | Update | | Play Wales | 19th January | January e bulletin | | Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service | 23rd January | Register my appliance week | |
| **12 Any other business**  12.1 Cllr Savage referred to the ‘Register my Appliance’ scheme and asked if this could be put on the Council’s Facebook page. This was agreed.  12.2 Cllr Fynes referred to speeding on the B4393 and pointed out that some communities had community speed camera schemes. The Clerk said that these schemes were usually undertaken by Neighbourhood Watch organisations. Those using cameras would need to be clearly visible to oncoming motorists and this could only be in the daylight hours. There is no legal force that can be exercised by these schemes although the police usually write to offenders warning them about speeding.  12.3. Cllr Done noted that the gate at Wild Boar farm has been locked so that the footpath is blocked. Cllr Savage pointed out that the access to the path is via a ‘kissing-gate’ a little further on and the Wild Boar gate is not on the footpath.  12.4 Cllr Done referred to the bridge on the Carreghofa Way footpath which had been displaced by recent flooding. County Cllr Arwel Jones said that if he has the precise location he will take the matter to Calum Carr, Powys’ Rights of way Officer.  Cllr Parry agreed to provide this  **ACTION: Cllr Parry then County Cllr Arwel Jones** |
| **14 Date of Next meeting**  The Clerk pointed out that he is unable to be present on the last Tuesday of February.  In view of this Council agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7.00pm at Llanymynech Village Hall  **ACTION: All to note.**  **Cllr Jones – will you please book the room for 5th March.** |

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_